

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST FOR ESB 79

Citations Affected: IC 12-14; IC 12-15.

Synopsis: Medicaid. Amends the definition of a disabled person, which is used for purposes of determining eligibility under the Medicaid program and the supplemental assistance for individuals with disabilities program, to include an individual who has a physical or mental impairment, disease, or loss that appears reasonably certain to result in death or last for a continuous period of at least four years without significant improvement. (Current law requires that the impairment, disease, or loss continue throughout the individual's lifetime.) Allows verification of a qualifying diagnosis of a mental impairment, disease, or loss to be made by a psychologist. Eliminates a provision requiring that the income of parents of certain Medicaid applicants who are between 18 and 21 years of age and who regularly attend a school, college, university, or course of vocational or technical training be considered when determining the applicants' eligibility for Medicaid. (This conference committee report specifies that the diagnosis of an individual with a mental impairment, disease, or loss may be verified by a physician or a psychologist for purposes of qualifying for Medicaid and the supplemental assistance for individuals with disabilities program.)

Effective: July 1, 2000; January 1, 2001.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

MR. PRESIDENT:

Your Conference Committee appointed to confer with a like committee from the House upon Engrossed House Amendments to Engrossed Senate Bill No. 79 respectfully reports that said two committees have conferred and agreed as follows to wit:

that the Senate recede from its dissent from all House amendments and that the Senate now concur in all House amendments to the bill and that the bill be further amended as follows:

- 1 Page 1, line 12, strike "a" and insert "**one (1) of the following:**
- 2 **(A) A**".
- 3 Page 1, line 13, delete ", or has a".
- 4 Page 1, delete line 14.
- 5 Page 1, line 15, delete "licensed under IC 25-33,".
- 6 Page 2, between lines 3 and 4, begin a new line double block
- 7 indented and insert:
- 8 **"(B) A mental impairment, disease, or loss that is:**
- 9 **(i) diagnosed by a physician licensed under**
- 10 **IC 25-22.5 or a health services provider in**
- 11 **psychology licensed under IC 25-33-1; and**
- 12 **(ii) verifiable by a physician licensed under**
- 13 **IC 25-22.5 or a psychologist licensed under**
- 14 **IC 25-33;**
- 15 **that has lasted or appears reasonably certain to last for a**
- 16 **continuous period of at least four (4) years without**
- 17 **significant improvement and that substantially impairs the**
- 18 **individual's ability to perform labor or services or to engage**
- 19 **in a useful occupation."**

(Reference is to ESB 79 as reprinted February 22, 2000.)

Conference Committee Report
on
Engrossed Senate Bill 79

Signed by:

Senator Miller
Chairperson

Representative Welch

Senator Simpson

Representative Goeglein

Senate Conferees

House Conferees